Message Text

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FOR CIVAIR ATT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, EG

SUBJECT: VIEWS ON ESCROW/TRUST FUND ACCOUNT

REFERENCE: A CAIRO 18347, B STATE 223049

1.RE REFTEL A PARA 2. CREATION OF A TRUST ACCOUNT IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONSIDERATION OF A LOAN TO EGOTH FOR THE OMAR KHAYYAM WAS ACCEPTABLE TO EXIM PRIMARILY BECAUSE MARRIOTT, A THIRD PARTY OUTSIDE OF ARE, AGREED TO DIRECT ALL FOREIGN EXCHANGE DUE THE OPERATOR OF THE HOTEL (MARRIOTT) TO THE TRUST ACCOUNT. SECONDLY, EXIM'S LOAN IS RELATIVELY SMALL (UNDER DOLS. 4 MILLION) AND REPAYMENT IS IN FIVE YEARS.

PIA HAS BEEN AN EXIMBANK BORROWER SINCE 1970 WITH A GOOD

REPAYMENT RECORD. IN THE EARLY 1970'S WHEN PAKISTAN RESCHEDULED ITS DEBTS, EXIM LOANS TO THE AIRLINE WERE NOT INCLUDED AND PAYMENTS ON THESE DEBTS HAVE REMAINED CURRENT. IN JANUARY 1978, PIA REQUESTED A LOAN FOR A 747-100B. BASED ON PIA'S STRONG RECENT EARNINGS PERFORMANCE AND POTENTIAL FOR INCREASED REVENUES WITH ADDITIONAL CAPACITY, EXIM WAS FAVORABLY CONSIDERING THE REQUEST. AT THE SAME TIME, WE LEARNED THAT PAKISTAN

MIGHT SEEK ADDITIONAL DEBT RELIEF. BECAUSE OF THIS, EXIM DETERMINED THAT ADDITIONAL SECURITY WOULD BE NEEDED FOR THE 747 LOAN AND THE TRUST ACCOUNT ARRANGEMENT WAS OFFERED. WHILE WE ARE NOT TOTALLY COMFORTABLE WITH THIS ADDITIONAL SECURITY WE AGREED TO ACCEPT IT BECAUSE OF THE STRONG PERFORMANCE OF PIA AND EXCELLENT REPAYMENT RECORD WITH EIB. IF THE 747 LOAN IS FINALIZED, OUR TOTAL EXPOSURE IN PAKISTAN AS OF 8/31/78, WOULD BE DOLS. 87 MILLION, DOLS. 67 MILLION OF WHICH WOULD BE WITH PIA.

2. BY COMPARISON, EXIMBANK'S EXPERIENCE WITH REPAYMENT OF EGYPTIAN PUBLIC DEBT HAS BEEN POOR. WE HAVE NEVER REPEAT NEVER RECEIVED A PAYMENT ON THE DUE DATE ON THE RESCHEDULED DEBT AND APPROXIMATELY DOLS. 60 THOUSAND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IN PENALTY INTEREST IS OVERDUE. THE FINAL INSTALLMENT ON THE RESCHEDULED DEBT IS DUE 10/2/78. ALSO BY COMPARISON EGYPTAIR'S REQUEST WOULD INCREASE OUR EXPOSURE OF DOLS. 29 MILLION IN EGYPT BY AT LEAST DOLS. 100 MILLION. FOR THESE REASONS WE DO NOT SEE OUR ARRANGEMENT WITH PIA AS A PRECEDENT FOR PROPOSED EGYPTAIR TRANSACTION.

- 3. IN LIGHT OF THE ABOVE, IT IS OUR BEST JUDGEMENT THAT WE CANNOT FAVORABLY RECOMMEND A TRUST ACCOUNT AS SECURITY FOR A LOAN TO EGYPTAIR. AS PREVIOUSLY STATED IN ORDER TO REACH A FINDING OF REASONABLE ASSURANCE OF REPAYMENT, WHICH WE NEED TO RECOMMEND CREDIT APPROVAL, WE WOULD REQUIRE AN ACCEPTABLE GUARANTOR WITH ASSETS OUTSIDE OF EGYPT.
- 4. THIS MESSAGE REPLACES ALL OF REF B WHICH SHOULD BE DISREGARDED. CHRISTOPHER

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